



**Connecticut  
Light & Power**

The Northeast Utilities System



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TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. SODERMAN  
THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY  
and YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY  
Energy & Technology Committee--March 10, 2009

**R.B. No. 6633 AAC RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT ACADEMY FOR  
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING REGARDING CONSOLIDATION OF ENERGY PROGRAMS  
AND A SECRETARY OF ENERGY.**

The proposed bill would create a new government entity called the state energy office with a Secretary and staff. We oppose this bill because it provides for more government and more costs. It seems that every year bills are proposed to change program direction or governance, diverting attention from delivering programs and savings to customers. It is simply not logical to expand government at the same time that we are dealing with a budget crisis.

We believe that this bill would disrupt and adversely impact existing energy processes, including those undertaken for Connecticut's nationally-recognized energy efficiency programs and the integrated resource plan.

As proposed, among other things, the new Office would replace the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board. This would cause uncertainty and confusion that would be especially bad at a time when we will be seeking additional funds from the federal stimulus legislation for energy programs. We need to find ways to use our existing structure to obtain additional funding for Connecticut.

We oppose this bill because it will be detrimental to customers.